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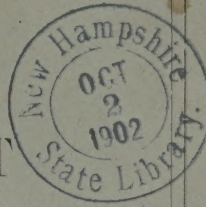








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# ANNUAL REPORT

—OF THE—

## TOWN OFFICERS

OF

### *ALSTEAD, N. H.,*

FOR THE YEAR ENDING MARCH 1, 1879.

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TOWN OFFICERS

ALBANY, N. Y.

FOR THE YEAR ENDING MARCH 1, 1878.

ALBANY, N. Y.

G. C. DAVIS, PRINTER.

# REPORT OF THE OFFICERS OF THE TOWN OF ALSTEAD, *FOR THE YEAR ENDING MARCH 1, 1879.*

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## VALUATION OF THE TOWN, APRIL 1st., 1878.

Estate, personal and real,	\$532,516 00
304 Polls,	30,400 00
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	\$562,916 00

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Rate of taxation \$1.32, per hundred dollars.

## AMOUNT REQUIRED BY LAW AND VOTE OF THE TOWN, AS FOLLOWS;

State tax,	\$1476 00
County tax,	1187 64
Schools,	1500 00
Ordinary town charges, debt and interest,	3,000 00
Tramp house,	100 00
Percentage,	166 85
Dogs,	69 00
	<hr/>
	\$7,499 49



## ORDERS ISSUED.

## Ordinary Town Charges.

John Hopkins, sweeping & care of town hall,	\$ 1 00
Jackson Marvin, services as auditor,	2 00
George A. Mayo, " selectman,	92 00
F. J. Chandler, " " "	56 00
Cyrus K. Vilas, " moderator,	3 00
E. A. Huntley, " selectman,	100 00
Cyrus K. Vilas, " auditor,	2 00
Aiken Gilmore, " " "	2 00
Esther Burroughs, " rendered Wilson family,	10 00
E. A. Huntley, " treasurer,	45 00
Charles S. Egerton, " town clerk,	25 00
D. S. Hamlin, printing town reports,	17 00
Amos F. Knight, abatement of taxes,	2 64
Mrs. Susan Shepard, " " "	13 20
Oliver Shepard estate, " " "	19 80
Mrs. Ann L. Wilder, damage through insufficiency of highway,	13 00
Mrs. Betsey Tuttle, " " "	10 00
John Mead, abatement of taxes,	1 32
John Mead, abatement of school-house tax,	50
Jeremiah Hale, " " "	66
B. A. Gibson, damage breaking through bridge,	10 00
Willard R. Hale, abatement of tax,	75
Jonathan Rawson, " for watering trough,	1 50
R. E. Gates, " " "	1 50
D. F. Brown, repairing wagon broken through insufficiency of highway,	2 00
John Hopkins, care town hall,	1 00
Dr. S. T. Smith, returning record of births and deaths,	7 25
E. A. Huntley, cash paid for stationery, books, and incidentals,	35 25
Geo. H. Tilden & Co., bill stationery &c.,	18 62
Ansel E. Glover, abatement for watering trough,	2 00
Amount carried up,	<hr/> \$495 99

Amount brought up,	\$495 99
L. W. Dinsmore, abatement for watering trough,	1 50
B. H. Fisher, driving and care of hearse,	9 75
Mrs. Clarissa Egerton, abatement of taxes,	6 60
Charles S. Egerton, collector, " "	33 08
P. P. Banks, services as liquor agent,	45 00
George A. Mayo, " school committee,	50 00
Charles S. Egerton, collector,	87 00
	<hr/>
	\$728 92

### HIGHWAYS AND BRIDGES.

Amasa Holt, breaking roads,	\$ 7 80
Edward Larraby, " "	2 68
Andrew J. Chandler, " "	7 65
Thomas Ganity, " "	2 70
Francis A. Bolster, " "	8 08
Wesley O. Blake, working non-resident highway tax,	4 00
Sandford Granger, work and lumber for bridge,	57 83
Edward Larraby, land damage and work on highway,	17 00
Amasa Holt, work on highway,	3 00
Horace R. Knight, working non-resident highway tax,	1 87
Charles French, work on highway,	5 00
Charles Washburn, " "	2 14
F. J. Chandler, " "	10 00
Russell Tinker, " "	5 50
Russell Tinker, repairs of bridge,	10 00
Geo. D. Clark, bridge plank and work on bridge,	12 36
John D. Holmes, " "	45 62
F. J. Chandler, work on highway,	2 50
Oscar F. Tinker " "	3 70
	<hr/>
Amount carried forward,	\$209 43

Amount brought forward,	209 43
Samuel Monson, “ “	12 00
E. P. Kidder, bridge plank,	6 97
Myron D. Clark, work on highway,	7 00
Wesley O. Blake, “	6 00
Harvey Washburn, “	2 25
Wilson D. Holt, “	2 50
J. F. Forristall, lumber for bridge,	17 32
F. O. Cady, repairing bridge,	2 00
W. R. Howard, railing for highway,	7 05
George E. Cater, breaking roads,	4 25
Nathaniel Richardson, bridge plank,	1 80
N. D. Reed, work on highway,	7 30
Charles W. Linsley, working non-resident highway tax,	5 75
Eli Washburn, breaking roads,	1 00
Joel T. Mayo, work on highway,	3 00
Orr Wallace, work on bridge,	1 50
Charles Washburn, breaking roads,	2 75
George Pratt, “	4 00
Horace R. Knight, “	5 00
Samuel M. Kidder, “	3 11
Stephen Slade, “	7 80
Stephen Slade, work on highway,	10 00
Stephen Slade, non-resident highway tax,	9 20
Amasa Holt, breaking roads,	2 25
S. G. Anderson, lumber for bridge,	15 62
Frank O. Cady, breaking roads,	9 75
William F. Mason, “	2 25
Lewis O. Clough, “	2 32
John V. Green, “	1 50
George Burroughs, work on bridge,	2 00
William O. Kemp, breaking roads,	7 59
L. A. Burras, “	3 60
Jones Caldwell, “	3 00
Samuel Morrison, “	9 00
Edward Griffin, “	60
Edward Larraby, “	4 35

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\$402 81



## SUPPORT OF SCHOOLS.

Dist. No.	1, Stephen Slade, committee,	\$ 121 90
"	2, Andrew J. Chandler, "	149 70
"	3, Azel Hatch, "	91 59
"	4, John D. Holmes, "	329 70
"	5, James A. Linsley, "	172 50
"	6, A. D. Beckwith, "	58 20
"	7, Roscoe E. Gates, "	133 16
"	8, Wadleigh Goodhue, "	76 40
"	9, Amasa Holt, "	85 50
"	10, James A. Kidder, "	71 85
"	11, A. W. Partridge, "	85 00
"	12, James A. Browne, "	117 35
"	13, George D. Clark, "	99 40
"	7, in Walpole, Farnum Marsh,	4 31
		<hr/>
		\$1,596 56

## COUNTY PAUPERS.

Nellie Porter and family,	\$156 00
Mary F. Emerson and family;	63 25
William and Persis Horton,	58 50
Mary Cobb,	57 00
Mehitable Miller,	22 17
Elmon Rawson,	52 00
Samuel D. Gee,	59 25
Transient persons,	38 25
	<hr/>
	506 42

## SCHOOL HOUSE REPAIRS.

Hiram F. Newell, repairs of school house in District No. 11,	\$139 00
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## TOWN PAUPERS.

William H. Messer, house rent for Wilson,	\$ 20 00
Josette Chandler, goods       “       “	3 25
E. A. Huntley,       “       “       “	5 70
Russell Tinker,       “       “       “	4 20
Cutler S. Angier, coffin for Frank Shepard,	12 00
E. A. Huntley, goods       “       “	2 20
Jotham Ryder, digging grave,       “	3 00
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	\$50 35

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## DAMAGE BY DOGS.

George Hatch,	3 00
Alonzo M. Fogg,	7 00
W. I. Taylor,	2 00
F. J. Chandler,	15 00
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	\$27 00

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## BOUNTY ON FOXES AND HAWKS.

E. A. Huntley, cash paid for bounty,	\$16 80
A. H. Burge,       “       “	9 50
	<hr/>
	\$26 30

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## FOR LIQUORS.

A. R. Emerson, liquors and freights,	\$101 42
A. R. Emerson,       “       “	38 25
	<hr/>
	\$139 67

## TOWN NOTES & INTEREST ON BONDS AFTER MATURITY.

Sylvester Burroughs,	\$ 18 00
Motley Rogers, town note and interest,	527 10
E. A. Huntley, cash paid interest on bonds after maturity,	12 00
A. P. Richardson,           “           “           “	26 52
Mrs. Sarah P. Hiland,       “           “           “	11 30
	<hr/> \$594 92

## RECAPITULATION.

Orders for ordinary town charges,	\$ 728 92
“ highways and bridges,	402 81
“ support of schools,	1,596 56
“ county paupers,	506 42
“ town paupers,	50 35
“ school house repairs,	139 00
“ damage by dogs,	27 00
“ liquors and freights,	139 67
“ paying town notes and interest,	594 92
“ bounty on foxes and hawks,	26 30
	<hr/> \$4,211 95

## RECEIPTS.

Cash reported in Treasury Mar. 1st, 1878,	1348 03
Eunice Cheever's note,	100 00
Interest on       “       “	6 00
“ Received of county pauper claim,	464 25
Tax warrant delivered C. S. Egerton, col.,	7499 49
Saving's Bank tax,	924 56
Literary fund,	96 20
	<hr/>
Amount carried forward,	\$10,438 53



Amount brought forward,	\$10,438 53
“ received of P. P. Banks, agent, sale of liquors,	338 44
Non resident highway tax,	41 60
Interest on taxes,	26 53
Orders to pay damages by dogs, (unpaid)	27 00
“ received from sale of old hearse,	9 00
“ taxes abated in 1877,	2 80
“ of Charles H. Wilder for damage from obstructing the highway,	10 00
“ for sale of fence posts,	36
“ of C. S. Egerton, col. school house tax district No. 11,	144 97
“ “ “ “ No. 13,	75 68
“ A. R. Emerson, sale of liquor barrel,	1 50
“ C. S. Egerton, taxes abated 1878,	102 32
	<hr/>
	\$11,118 73

### EXPENDITURES.

Paid orders issued last year,	\$ 15 00
“ state tax,	1476 00
“ county tax,	1187 64
“ orders issued since March 1st, 1878,	4211 95
“ town bonds paid,	2000 00
“ coupons attached to bonds,	60 00
“ “ due July 1st, 1878,	528 00
“ “ “ January 1st, 1879,	427 50
“ Eunice Cheever's note,	100 00
Cash in treasury March 1st, 1879,	1112 64
	<hr/>
	\$11,118 73

## INDEBTEDNESS, 1879.

Town Notes,	\$ 300 00
“ Bonds,	16250 00
Interest on Town Bonds, Mar. 1st, 1879,	162 50
Due School Districts,	82 47
School house tax, dist. no. 13,	75 68
Orders to pay damages by dogs,	27 00
	<hr/>
	\$16,897 65

## ASSETS.

Eunice Cheever's note,	\$ 100 00
Due from county pauper claim,	186 06
Liquors on hand,	40 00
Cash in treasury March 1st, 1879,	1112 64
	<hr/>
	\$ 1438 70
Balance of indebtedness March 1st, 1879,	15458 95
	<hr/>
	\$16,897 65
Bal. of indebtedness Mar. 1st, 1878,	\$ 17524 26
“ “ “ 1879,	15458 95
	<hr/>
Reduction of “ past year,	\$2,065 31

The undersigned, a board of Auditors chosen by the town of Alstead, to examine the accounts of the officers of said town, hereby certify that we have attended to the duty assigned us, and find the accounts of the selectmen properly cast and balanced and with proper vouchers therefor.

March 3rd, 1879.

JACKSON MARVIN,	} Auditors of Accounts for the Town of Alstead.
TIMOTHY TUFTS,	
HENRY A. LOVELL	

## ESTIMATED EXPENSES FOR 1879.

State tax,	\$1476 00
County tax,	1200 00
Schools,	1500 00
Ordinary town charges,	2500 00
Repairing highways and bridges,	1500 00

All of which is respectfully submitted.

E. A. HUNTLEY,	}	Selectmen of Alstead.
RUSSELL TINKER,		
F. J. CHANDLER,		



## REPORT OF THE SUPERINTENDING SCHOOL COMMITTEE.

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DISTRICT No. 1, Stephen Slade, prudential committee. Miss Lizzie E. Alden was employed to teach the summer term. The school appeared orderly, and made fair advancement. Length of term, 8 weeks. Whole number of scholars, 10. Average attendance, 9. Tardy marks, 19. Whole number of visits, 16.

The winter term, taught by Mr. W. J. Prentiss, of Walpole, was a very pleasant school, there being an unusual proportion of large scholars. We deeply regret that the condition of the roads prevented our being present at the close. The school made a fine appearance early in the term, and gave promise of much success. Length of term, 12 weeks. Whole number of scholars, 16. Average attendance, 15. Tardy marks, 14. Visits, 23.

DISTRICT No. 2, A. J. Chandler, prudential committee. The first term was commenced by Miss Ella J. Cross, of Gilsum. At the time of our first visit, contrary to expectation, we found several large scholars and, with one exception, the largest school in town. Early in the term, reports of dissatisfaction reached us. Although we found testimony somewhat conflicting, we could not see success awaiting the school, and advised the teacher to withdraw.

The services of Miss Emily M. Greene were procured for the remainder of the term. Fortunately, she possessed the confidence of the district, and accomplished a very commendable work. Length of school, 10 weeks. Whole number of scholars, 20. Average attendance, 17. Instances of tardiness, 12. Visits, 21.

During the fall term, the school was brought to a higher educational standing, through the efforts of Mr. W. J. Prentiss, of Walpole. One scholar did not misspell a word during the term. We observed a few instances of marked improvement. No district in Alstead has greater need of thoroughly good teachers. There is decided latent talent in this school which such teachers only can develop. Length of school, 13 weeks. Number of scholars, 18. Average attendance, 16. Tardy marks, 16. Visits, 22.

DISTRICT No. 3, Azel Hatch, prudential committee. Miss Leola Holden, of Langdon, taught the first term. The scholars were few, and but little emulation could be excited. Miss Holden did all that could be expected in a term of six weeks: preserving good order and evidently promoting the best interests of the school. Length of term, 5 weeks. Number of scholars, 8. Average attendance, 7. Tardy marks, 10. Visitors, 18.

Winter term. This school was fortunate in the selection of its teacher, Mr. B. J. Gibson. Having good literary ability and the faculty of clearly presenting a subject to the mind of the pupil, good improvement is assured. The interest of the school was enhanced by the study of the higher branches by the more advanced scholars. Greatly to our disappointment, we were unable to be present at the examination, but understand that it was a success. Length of term, 12 weeks. Number of scholars, 15. Average attendance, 13. Tardy marks, 46. Visits, 20.

DISTRICT No. 5, James A. Linsley, prudential committee. Both summer and fall terms were taught by Miss E. Eva Seaman, of Marlow. Refined in manner, of good attainments, having a natural fitness for and fully devoted to the work, her success was well-nigh complete. The respectful deportment of the scholars, their interest in study, and the advance made are worthy of commendation. First term, length of school, 11 weeks. Number of scholars, 22. Average attendance, 20. Tardy marks, 3. Visits, 55. Second term, length of school, 13 weeks. Number of scholars, 29. Average attendance, 27. Tardy marks, 4. Visits, 38.

DISTRICT No. 6, A. D. Beckwith, prudential committee. The only term was conducted by Mrs. Amelia C. Beckwith, a teacher of large experience. The school was made quite interesting and profitable to the few scholars who attended. Would it not be expedient as well as appropriate for all teachers to apply for a certificate for the year then current, without which they are entitled to no compensation and have no authority? Length of school, 11 weeks. Number of scholars, 3. Average attendance, 3 nearly. Tardy marks, 0. Visits, 1.

DISTRICT No. 7, R. E. Gates, prudential committee. Miss Emma I. Bingham, of Gilsum, had charge of the school for three terms, average improvement being made. Miss B. evinces several good qualities for a teacher, but is yet young, and should give time to a thorough preparation; then, placing her school under strict subjection, will make a very good teacher. The "Roll of Honor" is especially worthy of remark, surpassing in number that of any other school. Spring term, length of term, 9 weeks. Number of scholars, 14. Average attendance, 13. Tardy marks, 0. Visits, 47. Fall term, length of term, 6 weeks. Number of scholars, 18. Average attendance, 16. Tardy marks, 0. Visits, 26. Winter term, length of term, 9 weeks.

Number of scholars, 13. Average attendance, 12. Number of tardy marks, 0. Visits, 16. The scholars of No. 7 may take just pride in the entire absence of tardy marks for the year, a result rarely attained.

DISTRICT No. 8, W. Goodhue, prudential committee. The first and second terms were under the instruction of Miss Nellie F. Goodhue. This was her first experience in teaching, and was quite satisfactory, the scholars being orderly and making decided advancement. The teacher gave very full explanations, which greatly promoted the good of the school. Miss G. has very good literary attainments. We observe that teachers of moderate ability do not illustrate or explain. Spring term, length of school, 7 weeks. Number of scholars, 6. Average, 5. Tardy marks, 6. Visits, 11. Fall term, length of school, 10 weeks. Number of scholars, 7. Average, 5. Tardy marks, 7. Visits, 5.

DISTRICT No. 9, Amasa Holt, prudential committee. This district having no school house, a room in the dwelling of Charles H. Lucas was used for school purposes. The scholars were studious, their progress was commendable, their deportment excellent. Sarah M. Wood, teacher. Spring term, length of school, 7 weeks. Number of scholars, 8. Average attendance, 7. Tardy marks, 0. Visits, 12. Fall term, length of school, 9 weeks. Number of scholars, 6. Average, 5. Tardy marks, 7. Visits, 5.

DISTRICT No. 10, James A. Kidder, prudential committee. This school was placed in care of Miss Abbie M. Kidder. By carefully observing the marks of punctuation, some of the scholars would make very good readers, and would, under careful training, excel in other branches. While it is necessary that the rules of the text-book be well committed, it is of paramount importance that they be distinctly understood. Spring term, 7 weeks. Number



of scholars, 3. Average attendance, 3 nearly. Tardy marks, 0. Visits, 11. Fall term, 9 weeks. Number of scholars, 6. Average, 4. Tardy marks, 7. Visits, 13.

DISTRICT No. 11, A. W. Partridge, prudential committee. First term. This was a well taught and well governed school, being characterized by several important elements of success, among which were thoroughness and good order. To those schools that require disciplining, we especially recommend Miss Hattie F. Perkins, of Marlow. Length of school, 6 weeks. Average attendance, 8. Tardy marks, 11. Visits, 4. This school ranked first in "average attendance," no absences having occurred during the term.

The second term was taught by Miss Etta A. Newell, a *working* teacher, and one of our best. Let those who attempt to teach without hard work be disabused of the fallacy that they will ever succeed. Listlessness and inactivity are not attributes of a good instructor. Although the term was short and interrupted by sickness, the scholars passed one of the best examinations we have attended. Length of term, 8 weeks. Number of scholars, 14. Average attendance, 11. Tardy marks, 2. Visits, 29.

DISTRICT No. 12, James A. Browne, prudential committee. Both summer and winter terms were in charge of Miss Effie M. Taylor as teacher. The examination indicated a good degree of improvement, a few scholars doing especially well. First term, length of school, 9 weeks. Number of scholars, 15. Average, 14. Tardy marks, 16. Visits, 13. Second term, length of school, 11 weeks. Number of scholars, 15. Average, 13. Instances of tardiness, 5. Visits, 26.

DISTRICT No. 13, George D. Clarke, prudential committee. The first term was instructed by Miss Nora M. Allan, of South Aeworth. More energy would have

enhanced the value of the school. Without good health a teacher labors under serious disadvantages. Length of school, 8 weeks. Number of scholars, 10. Average attendance, 9. Instances of tardiness, 9. Visits, 15.

Second term. Several scholars in this school are diffident in the presence of visitors, and fail to do themselves justice in the examinations. We have, however, more hope of a bashful scholar than of one excessively bold. At the close good order prevailed, more improvement being made than in the previous term. Dean L. Allan, of South Acworth, teacher. Length of school, 12 weeks. Whole number of scholars, 11. Average number, 10. Tardy marks, 6. Visits, 38.

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### ITEMS.

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We commend the action of Dist. No. 11 to the attention of several other districts. The school house, having been thoroughly repaired and made neat, comfortable, and attractive, is now without a superior in the town.

In purchasing text-books, we recommend Harpers' Geography, Greenleaf's Arithmetics, the Franklin Readers, and Greene's Analysis for advanced classes in grammar, uniformity in the use of the above being now practically secured. Harpers' Geography, introduced the past year, has proved a work of rare excellence, and the interest in the study has greatly improved thereby.

It is to be regretted that so many leave our schools at an early age, since few of them ever attend the higher institutions of learning. A possible reason for this is seen where very young teachers are employed.

The following statistics, while throwing some light upon the condition of schools, may also be of interest in comparing the past year with an average of former years in certain particulars.

Yearly average for the four years preceding the past:  
Aggregate length of school in weeks, summer and winter terms, 273.

Aggregate number of scholars as above, 399. Average number, 342.

Percentage of attendance, .86, nearly. Instances of tardiness, 427; visits, 650.

For the past year. Aggregate length of schools, 277 weeks. Number of scholars, 420. Average attendance, 377. Percentage of attendance, .90, nearly. Instances of tardiness, 249; visits, 556. There has been a material increase in the number of scholars not absent or tardy. The above includes district No. 4, in both instances.

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## ROLL OF HONOR.

Including the names of all scholars who have been present every half day of a term (two terms, marked with a star) without being tardy.

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District No. 1. Silas R. Angier, Norman A. Slade, Fred W. C. Slade, E. S. Bowman. 4.

District No. 2. \*Lillie M. Tuttle, Gracie E. Chandler, Annie F. Garrity, Chas. A. Fisher, Guy Wellman, Leslie H. Chandler, Chas. Wellman, Ella F. Blanchard. 9.

District No. 3. Stella L. Gates, Charles H. Britton. 2.

District No. 5. \*Helen M. Fifield, \*Mary E. Hills, Hattie R. Emerson, Rose E. M. Smith, \*Mattie E. Hills, Ida M. Shepard, Delia D. Hopkins, Lubert W. Shepard, \*Eddie L. Shepard, Merrill J. Wilder, \*Arthur H. Jennings, Ray C. Linsley, Eddie A. Mitchell, Charles H. Hopkins, Perley S. Rice, Charlie H. Porter. 21.

District No. 6. Mury A. Ellis, Clarence E. Beckwith. 2.

District No. 7. \*Lola A. Cady, \*Cynthia A. Cater, \*Angie M. Greene, \*Mary E. Cady, Millie U. Gates, Effie E. Greene, †Charles E. Thurston, †Bertie E. Gates, \*Henry J. Cater, Fred E. Greene, Geo. H. Greene, James F. Cady, Charlie E. Greene, 22. †Three terms.

District No. 8. \*Nettie S. Morrison, \*Frank A. Kidder. 4.

District No. 9. Winfred Tupper, Joseph Sawyer, Arthur Sawyer. 3.

District No. 10. Clara E. Knight. 1.

District No. 11. \*Agnes E. Partridge, Clarence E. Smith, Albert L. Thayer, Eddie E. Royce. 5.

District No. 12. \*Fred W. Morrison, Eddie R. Demerse, Cleon Demerse, Hattie E. Nash, Lonnie W. Morrison, George H. Willis. 7.

District No. 13. \*Lizzie A. Clark, Gertie A. Watkins. 3.

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## GENERAL REMARKS.

Teachers, although passing good examinations generally, have, in some instances, failed to do all that was expected of them.

Since the want of order is productive of more failures than all other causes combined, since *work* is the great need in the schoolroom, and fidelity the great need of the teacher, we suggest to such as cannot or will not preserve order, who cannot or will not devote their entire energies to the performance of duty, that they seek other employments or reform radically, and at once, their methods of teaching.

We are impelled to speak plainly upon this point.

In you has been reposed a momentous trust; to you has been committed a most important charge.

Upon your fidelity greatly depends the future good or ill of those under your care.



The influences you exert will endure for all time ; unconsciously perhaps, you are molding the pliant mind into forms which, once fixed, you have not the power to change.

Can it be, then, that any, knowing their inability and unfitness, will attempt to enter upon this responsible calling?

Are such dealing justly with themselves—with their employers, and above all, with those who are looking to them as a pattern, instructor and guide? Your candid consideration of this matter is solicited.

Again, it is an error fatal to satisfactory results, to employ inferior teachers in small or backward schools.

If such have only a minor claim upon education ; if it is desirable that backward scholars remain such, then placing a second-rate teacher in charge, the result is not doubtful.

We are now fully convinced that such a course is not the part of wisdom or economy. It is urged that the appropriation is small, and cheap teachers make longer terms ; it is not the length of school that determines improvement, but the quality of the teacher and the degree of parental co-operation. Many have little claim to scholarship, simply from the want of proper training.

To awaken the mind to greater activity, and place it in the way of rapid advancement, is peculiarly the province of skilled instructors. To employ others is to place a premium upon ignorance.

Respectfully submitted,

GEORGE A. MAYO,

*Superintendent of Schools.*

To the SUPERINTENDING SCHOOL COMMITTEE of the town  
of ALSTEAD:

The Board of Education of school district No. 4 beg leave to submit the following report of the schools in said district for the year ending March 1st, 1879.

In the Grammar Department there have been two terms. The summer term was commenced by Miss Mary E. Milliken, but, on account of sudden and severe illness, she was obliged to abandon it soon after the commencement.

The school was immediately placed in charge of Miss Nellie Weatherhead, of South Vernon, Vt. Miss Weatherhead is a first-class teacher, and thoroughly fitted to discharge the duties of her vocation. Under her instruction, the school made good progress.

The winter term was taught by Miss Agnes J. Graves, of Claremont. Miss Graves is an experienced and successful teacher, being able not only to win the respect of her pupils, but also to impart to them a thorough knowledge of the principles of the several branches which they study. This has been a profitable school, and Miss Graves has maintained her former reputation as a good teacher.

In the Primary Department there have also been two terms, both taught by Miss Nellie M. Fiske, who has taught in this department several terms, and always with entire success. Miss Fiske is peculiarly adapted to teaching and training small children, and parents feel the same confidence in placing them under her care they would if under their own watchful eye.

We regard the schools in this district as quite successful, and with the same good feeling and hearty co-operation as now exists on the part of the district, and with good teachers, our schools will become all that can be desired.

JOHN F. DICKEY,

*Secretary of Board of Education.*





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